

Message Text

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NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

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----- 101572

R 202206Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA

USINT BAGHDAD

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 20, 1974:

QUOTE: Q. BOB, YESTERDAY, JOHN KING IN RESPONSE TO A
QUESTION, GAVE AN ANSWER ABOUT THE ISRAELI RAIDS IN SOUTH
LEBANON. DO YOU HAVE ANY NEW, OR ADDITIONAL VIEWS IN LIGHT
OF THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF RAIDS?

A. WELL, I READ THE TRANSCRIPT OF YESTERDAY AND FOR THOSE
OF YOU THAT WERE NOT HERE YESTERDAY, I SUGGEST YOU READ
WHAT JOHN SAID.

BUT I MIGHT ADD JUST ONE COMMENT HERE: THERE HAVE BEEN
REPORTS THAT THESE ATTACKS HAVE BEEN INTENSIFYING AS A
RESULT OF SOME KIND OF A "GREEN LIGHT" THAT WAS GIVEN BY THE
PRESIDENT TO THE ISRAELIS DURING HIS VISIT TO ISRAEL; AND ON
THAT, I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS
NOT GIVEN A GREEN LIGHT TO ANYBODY.

AND AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE UNITED STATES, BY THE SECRETARY'S
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EFFORTS DURING THE LAST SIX MONTHS AND THE PRESIDENT'S
RECENT VISIT, IS BENDING EVERY EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A
MOMENTUM TOWARDS A GENUINE, NEGOTIATED PEACE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST.

AND I JUST WANT TO REPEAT THAT OUR AIM THERE IS TO ENCOUR-
AGE THE FORCES OF MODERATION IN THE AREA -- AS EVIDENCED
BY THE TWO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENTS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND
SYRIA AND ISRAEL AND EGYPT.

Q. SHORT OF A GREEN LIGHT, WERE NOT THE ISRAELIS GIVEN
SOME ASSURANCES OF U.S. -- AT LEAST "UNDERSTANDING" OR YOU
MIGHT EVEN CALL IT "COMPASSIONATE UNDERSTANDING", SHOULD
THEY REACT FROM AN ATTACK -- WITH ATTACK?

YOU MENTIONED THE PRESIDENT. NOW, THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WAS ALSO IN THE MIDDLE EAST OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD, AND
THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME IMPRESSION THAT ONE OF THE RESULTS
OF THE VISIT WAS AT LEAST -- PERHAPS AN UNWRITTEN UNDER-
STANDING, BUT CERTAINLY AN UNDERSTANDING, THAT ISRAEL

WOULD RESPOND IN KIND TO TERRORIST ATTACKS.

A. WELL, YOU WERE ON THE TRIP, BARRY, AND YOU REMEMBER THE STATEMENT THAT PRIME MINISTER MEIR READ IN KNESSET. AND THIS STATEMENT WAS READ IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT -- AND ALL I WANT TO SAY IS THAT, AS WE HAVE SAID MANY TIMES BEFORE, WE DEPLORE VERY STRONGLY THE CONTINUING ACTION AND REACTION CYCLE OF VIOLENCE ACROSS THE LEBANESE BORDER WITH ISRAEL.

Q. THEN WOULD IT BE FAIR TO SAY THERE WERE EVER IMPLICIT, OR EXPLICIT UNDERSTANDINGS, OR COMPASSION, OR WHATEVER THE WORD WOULD BE--"UNDERSTANDING" WOULD BE A LEGAL WORD-- MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING SHORT OF UNDERSTANDING, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO THE ISRAELIS, WHICH DID NOT PERTAIN TO LEBANON?

A. WELL JUST LET ME REPEAT WHAT I SAID, THAT THIS STATEMENT -- THE STATEMENT THAT THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL READ -- WAS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT.

Q. I UNDERSTAND.

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Q. BUT THIS CONCERNED POLITICAL SUPPORT, DIDN'T IT? FOR ISRAEL?

A. YES.

Q. WHICH WAS PRESUMED TO MEAN THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD VETO A RESOLUTION OF CONDEMNATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AND THAT SORT OF THING?

A. I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THE DEFINITION OF THE PHRASE "POLITICAL SUPPORT." THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF TIMES AND THE SECRETARY HAS DISCUSSED IT IN HIS JUNE 6TH PRESS CONFERENCE.

Q. WITHOUT REGARD TO THAT, AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF COMPASSION -- THESE RAIDS HAVE BEEN GOING ON FOR FOUR DAYS NOW, IN RETALIATION FOR SOME GUERRILLA ATTACKS.

AND THIS HAS LED TO SPECULATION IN SOME QUARTERS THAT ISRAEL IS SEEKING -- BECAUSE IT DOESN'T PARTICULARLY CARE FOR THE AGREEMENTS, THAT THE SECRETARY ARRANGED OUT THERE AND THAT THE PRESIDENT BLESSED -- THAT ISRAEL IS SEEKING TO STIR UP TROUBLE, AND UNDO SOME OF THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE.

WHAT'S THE U.S. VIEW OF THAT?

A. I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO COMMENT ON THAT SPECULATION, AT ALL.

Q. WHAT -- DO YOU THINK THAT THIS REACTION IS HELPFUL?
YOU PROMISED POLITICAL SUPPORT OF IT, BUT I WONDER HOW FAR
THIS POLITICAL SUPPORT GOES.

A. WHEN YOU SAY "THIS REACTION," YOU MEAN THE ACTIONS OF
THE LAST FOUR DAYS?

Q. YES.

A. WELL I JUST REPEAT, AND I GO ON WHAT JOHN KING SAID
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YESTERDAY, AND I REPEAT AGAIN; THAT WE DEPLORE THIS KIND
OF ACTION VERY, VERY STRONGLY -- AND I JUST LEAVE IT THERE.

Q. WELL I'M JUST SEEKING SOME IDEA OF THE ORDER OF MAGNI-
TITUDE IN THIS THING, AS TO WHETHER THE UNITED STATES
PLACED ANY RESTRICTION AT ALL ON THE ORDER OF MAGNITUDE OF
RETALIATION.

A. (SHAKES HEAD INDICATING IN THE NEGATIVE.)

Q. NONE THAT YOU KNOW OF. I GUESS.

A. NO.

Q. COULDN'T THE POINT BE MADE CLEARLY? YOU SEEM TO IMPLY
IT: THAT THE POLITICAL SUPPORT TO WHICH MRS. MEIR REFER-
RED IN HER SPEECH AT KNESSET -- IT REFERRED TO AN AGREEMENT

THAT EXISTED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA -- AND BY EXCLUS-
ION, THEREFORE, COULD NOT REFER TO ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND LEBANON.

A. WELL, HERE --

Q. THEY WEREN'T NEGOTIATING FOR THE LEBANESE, WERE THEY?

A. NO -- I THINK - JUST HAVE TO STAND ON WHAT I SAID WITH
REGARD TO WHETHER THERE ARE ATTACKS -- WITH REGARD TO THE
GOLAN HEIGHTS, OR WITH REGARD TO LEBANON -- WE DEPLORE
THESE ATTACKS VERY STRONGLY, AND THIS CYCLE--RECYCLE
ACTION, JUST IS NOT HELPFUL IN TRYING TO BRING ABOUT A
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. BUT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THAT UNDERSTANDING -- WHICH
THE ISRAELIS APPARENTLY BELIEVE THEY HAVE WITH THE UNITED
STATES -- HAD THERE BEEN A TERRORIST RAID FROM SYRIAN
TERRITORY, AND HAD THERE BEEN A RETALIATION BY THE ISRAELIS
UPON SYRIAN TERRITORY -- WOULD THE UNITED STATES BE DEPLOR-
ING IT?

A. I'M SURE WE WOULD. I MEAN , ANY ATTACK --

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Q. WELL, WHAT DOES "POLITICAL SUPPORT" MEAN?

A. I AM NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE HYPOTHETICAL DISCUSSION OF WHAT POLITICAL SUPPORT MEANS IN THE ABSENCE OF SOME CONCRETE ACTION -- I'M JUST NOT GOING TO GET INTO IT.

Q. BOB, LET ME TRY. REALLY WE'LL BURY THIS SOON ENOUGH. SOMETHING HAS CHANGED, HASN'T IT, IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISRAELI-SYRIAN SITUATION. AREN'T YOU SAYING THAT THE SITUATION REGARDING THE ATTACKS IN LEBANON IS AS IT WAS BEFORE THESE LAST FEW TRIPS.

WE HAVE THE SAME VIEW OF ISRAELI REACTION TO ATTACKS FROM LEBANON AS WE HAD BEFORE; WHEREAS, OUR VIEW OF ISRAELI RESPONSES TO ATTACKS FROM SYRIA IS DIFFERENT NOW, ISN'T IT?

A. I DON'T KNOW. I THINK WE JUST HAVE TO STAND ON THE STATEMENT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MADE- OBVIOUSLY WE WOULD NOT BE IN FAVOR OF ATTACKS FROM ANY FRONT.

Q. NOT ATTACKS. RETALIATION.

A. RETALIATION FROM ANY FRONT, BECAUSE IT JUST ISN'T CON-
DUCIVE TO PEACE. AND I WOULD REALLY JUST LIKE TO LEAVE IT
THERE IF I MAY.

Q. BOB, MAY I ASK FOR CLARIFICATION. YOU STARTED THIS
OFF BY SAYING THAT SOMEBODY HAS BEEN GIVING A GREEN LIGHT,
OR THE PRESIDENT GAVE A GREEN LIGHT TO THE ISRAELIS, AND
THAT WAS WHEN YOU STARTED OFF WITH THIS. AND THEN LATER
ON THERE WAS SOMEBODY WHO BROUGHT UP SOMETHING ABOUT
SPECULATION THAT ISRAEL IS STIRRING UP TROUBLE. ISN'T IT
TRUE THAT THIS SPECULATION AND THESE RUMORS AND ALL THIS
STARTING UP IS BEING DONE BY THE PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON
WHO INITIATED THE KILLINGS IN THE FIRST PLACE?

A. ON THE QUESTION OF THE GREEN LIGHT, THE THING I WAS
REFERRING TO WERE THE NUMEROUS REPORTS IN THE PRESS. THEY
COME FROM "UNSPECIFIED ARAB CHARGES THAT," IS WHAT I HAVE
BEEN GIVEN, AND IT HAS BEEN REPEATED IN THE PRESS. NOW, I
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DO NOT KNOW THE SPECIFICS.

Q. BOB, WILL YOU TELL US ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR TEAM

THAT'S HERE TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES?

A. I HAVE SOME BRIEFING ON THAT FOR YOU.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT A FOUR-MAN EGYPTIAN TEAM, HEADED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EGYPTIAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, WILL ARRIVE HERE TOMORROW TO BEGIN TALKS REGARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL. THAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT. AND THAT CONTRACT SHOULD BE SIGNED BY JUNE 30 BECAUSE OF THE LONG LEAD-TIME IN SUPPLYING THIS FUEL, WHICH IS ABOUT EIGHT YEARS.

YOU RECEIVED A LOT OF THIS IN THE BACKGROUNDER THE OTHER DAY.

Q. BOB, WOULD YOU GO BACK TO YOUR COMMENT THERE THAT THIS SHOULD BE SIGNED BY JUNE 30 -- BECAUSE OF THE LONG LEAD-TIME?

A. LONG LEAD-TIME IN SUPPLYING THIS FUEL. IT'S ABOUT EIGHT YEARS.

Q. BOB, I DON'T SEE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN LEAD-TIME AND THIS BEING SIGNED BY JUNE 30.

A. MAY I GO ON, AND MAYBE THIS WILL EXPLAIN IT. IT SAID THE JUNE 30 DEADLINE WAS PUT IN AEC REGULATIONS LAST FALL WHEN IT SWITCHED FROM A SIX-MONTHS LEAD-TIME TO AN EIGHT-MONTHS LEAD-TIME. ANYONE DESIRING NUCLEAR FL BETWEEN MID-78 AND MID-82 MUST SIGN THE CONTRACT BY JUNE 30. NOW, I CANNOT GIVE YOU ANYTHING MORE.

Q. BECAUSE THIS IS THE END OF THE YEAR.

A. IT'S THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

Q. BOB, DOES THIS CONTRACT THAT THEY ARE GOING TO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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NEGOTIATING, WILL THAT INCLUDE THE SAFEGUARDS THAT THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT SADAT HAD IN THEIR CAIRO COMMUNIQUE?

A. I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THIS FUEL CONTRACT WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON NEGOTIATION OF A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH STRINGENT SAFEGUARDS ON COOPERATION FOR PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. UNTIL THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED AND SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS, AND TO EGYPT.

Q. WHAT ABOUT AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL? IF IT IS NOT SIGNED BY THE END OF THE MONTH, THAT MEANS THAT THE LEAD-TIME

WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO HAVE ANYTHING ON SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

A. ON THE QUESTION OF A CONTRACT FOR FUEL?

Q. YES.

A. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY BEEN SHOWN A DRAFT CONTRACT FOR THE NUCLEAR FUEL. AND WE PRESUME THAT AN ISRAELI TEAM WOULD ALSO BE COMING SOON BECAUSE THEY FACE THE SAME DEADLINE AS THE (EGYPTIAN) TEAM.

Q. IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU DON'T SIGN THIS BY JUNE 30 YOU CAN'T GET FUEL UNTIL AFTER 1982, IS THAT THE THRUST OF THIS?

A. IT DELAYS IT AS I UNDERSTAND IT, BERNIE -- BUT I'LL CHECK THIS WITH SOME OF THE EXPERTS -- THIS WOULD DELAY IT A WHOLE YEAR IF YOU DON'T DO IT BEFORE THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR.

Q. AT THE MOMENT THERE IS NO ISRAELI MISSION COMING HERE TO SIGN, YOU DON'T KNOW OF ANY?

A- NO. WE ARE PRESUMING THAT AN ISRAELI TEAM WILL ALSO BE COMING, OBVIOUSLY VERY SOON, BUT I HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THE COMPOSITION OR THE DATE OF ARRIVAL ON IT. END QUOTE
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KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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